

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 OIC-04 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14

RSC-01 SCI-06 AEC-11 SPM-01 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 FEA-02 OMB-01

SWF-02 DRC-01 /267 W
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R 251155Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4998

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 7207

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR IT XA XB XR YO RO MT UN

SUBJECT: UNGA SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION - STEAMROLLER TACTICS

REF: STATE 104050

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED G-77/NACG STEAMROLLER TACTICS AT UNGA SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION WITH ITALIAN FONMINISTRY VICE DIRGEN POLAFFAIRS (GARDINI) ON MAY 24, DRAWING FULLY ON POINTS MADE REFTEL TO EXPRESS US DEEP AND HIGH LEVEL CONCERN. EMBOFF CONJECTURED THAT THE PROBLEM OF STEAMROLLER TACTICS WOULD BE OF SPECIFIC CONCERN TO ITALY DURING THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE NOV 5-16, GIVEN THE PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITIES OF ITALY AS HOST TO THE CONFERENCE. EMPHASIZING US CONCERN, EMBOFF ASKED THAT THE MINISTRY GIVE EARLY ATTENTION TO THE MATTER, AND CONSULT WITH US WITH REGARD TO ANY USEFUL APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM WHICH GOI CONSIDERATION MIGHT DEVELOP.

2. GARDINI SAID GOI OF COURSE AWARE OF THE PROBLEM AND CONCERNED LEST THE USE OF AUTOMATIC MAJORITIES DEGRADE THE USEFULNESS OF
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INSTITUTIONS WHICH COULD OTHERWISE MOBILIZE INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS

TO MEET WORLD PROBLEMS. (SAME POINT HAD BEEN MADE TO US EARLIER, BY OFFICE DIRECTOR PAOLO PENSA, MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS, DIRGEN ECONAFFAIRS, SEE ALSO ROME 7113, PARA 8.) GARDINI HAD NO IMMEDIATE SUGGESTIONS TO OFFER, BUT EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT USG FOCUSING ON THIS ISSUE. GARDINI WISHED TO GIVE THE MATTER ADDITIONAL THOUGHT AND SUGGESTED A FURTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. EMBOFF NOTED THAT WE AWARE ECON DIRECTORATE GENERAL ALSO CONCERNED, AND AGREED THAT WE SHOULD REVIEW THE MATTER AT AN EARLY DATE.

3. COMMENT: THE ITALIANS ARE AWARE THAT THE ROOT OF THE MATTER IS TO MAKE THE LDC'S AWARE, IN SOME WAY, THAT THEIR REAL INDIVIDUAL INTERESTS ARE NOT IDENTICAL EXCEPT ON THE POINT, RECOGNIZED OR NOT, THAT REALISTIC ACHIEVEMENTS ARE WORTH MORE IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS THAN RINGING PRONOUNCEMENTS. THE ITALIANS ARE ALSO AWARE THAT TO ENCOURAGE A BREAK IN THE SOLID FRONT OF THE "AUTOMATIC MAJORITIES," TO ENCOURAGE LDC'S TO VOTE RESPONSIBLY THEIR OWN INDIVIDUAL INTERESTS, IS TO RISK LOSING POSITION AND CREDIBILITY FOR HAVING USED "SPLITTING TACTICS." NEVERTHELESS THE GOI IS CONCERNED AND SHARES OUR ESTIMATE OF THE NEED FOR A REMEDY. WE WILL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE MINISTRY ON THIS SUBJECT AND REPORT ANY SUGGESTIONS THE GOI MAY DEVELOP. VOLPE

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